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Letter from the Secretary of the Interior,
transmitting a draught of a joint resolution
authorizing the transfer of certain appropriations
for the Indian Service on the books of the Treasury.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR,

TRANSMITTING

A draught of a joint resolution authorizing the transfer of certain appropriations for the Indian service on the books of the Treasury.

AUGUST 30, 1890.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
Washington, August 29, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a communication, of 28th instant, from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, inclosing a draught of a joint resolution authorizing the transfer of certain appropriations for the Indian service on the books of the Treasury.

The Commissioner reports that the preliminary expenses incurred prior to the 1st ultimo, in connection with the opening of bids at the New York warehouse for the furnishing of supplies for the Indian service for the current fiscal year, amount to \$1,739.56, which sum was drawn from appropriation "Telegraphing and purchase of Indian supplies, 1890," and that, under former rulings of the accounting officers of the Treasury, transfer would be made of the amount of the preliminary expenese from the new to the old appropriation; but, owing to the fact that the act making appropriations for the Indian service for the fiscal year 1891 was not passed prior to the beginning of the said fiscal year, the honorable Second Comptroller decides that the transfer can not be made.

The Commissioner further reports that this decision places his office in an embarrassing position, as the sum named, \$1,739.56, borrowed from the 1890 appropriation, is needed to meet outstanding indebtedness incurred on account of the service for 1890.

Very respectfully,

JOHN W. NOBLE,
Secretary.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Washington, August 28, 1890.

SIR: I have the honor to advise you that the preliminary expenses incurred prior to the 1st ultimo, in connection with the opening of bids at the New York warehouse, for the furnishing of supplies for the In-

dian service for the current fiscal year, amount to \$1,739.56, which sum was drawn from appropriation "Telegraphing and purchase of Indian supplies, 1890."

Under the former rulings of the accounting officer of the Treasury, it was held that money appropriated for a given fiscal year is available to pay preliminary expenses incurred prior to the 1st of July, in obtaining supplies for the ensuing year, and after ascertaining the expenses incurred, transfer would be made from the new to the old appropriation.

Owing to the late date (August 29) of the approval of the act making appropriations for the Indian service for the fiscal year 1891, it is held by the Second Comptroller that the transfer of funds from 1891 to 1890 can not be made, which decision places this office in an embarrassing position, as the sum named, \$1,739.56, borrowed from the 1890 appropriation, is needed to meet outstanding indebtedness incurred on account of the service for 1890.

In view of this condition of affairs, I have prepared and submit herewith a draught of a joint resolution, which I respectfully request may be forwarded to the Speaker of the House for the action of Congress, authorizing the transfer of appropriations referred to.

Very respectfully,

T. J. MORGAN,
Commissioner.

The SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.

Joint resolution authorizing the transfer of certain appropriations for the Indian service on the books of the Treasury.

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and is hereby, authorized and directed to transfer upon the books of the Treasury the sum of \$1,739.56, from appropriation "Telegraphing and purchase of Indian supplies, 1891," to appropriation "Telegraphing and purchase of Indian supplies, 1890."

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